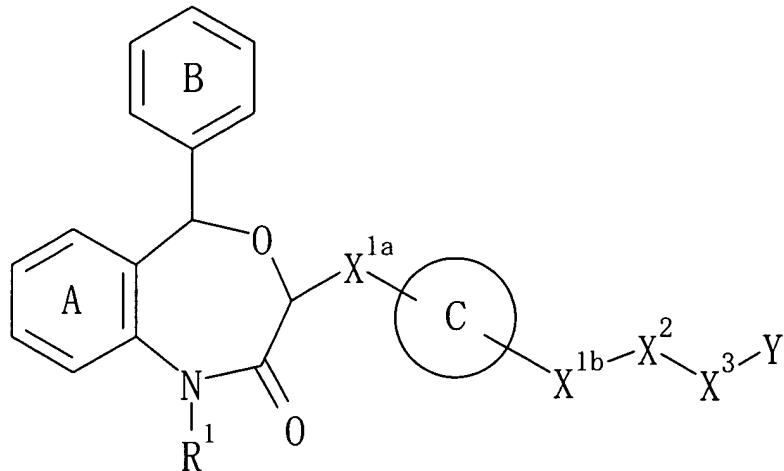


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Original) A compound represented by the formula [1]:



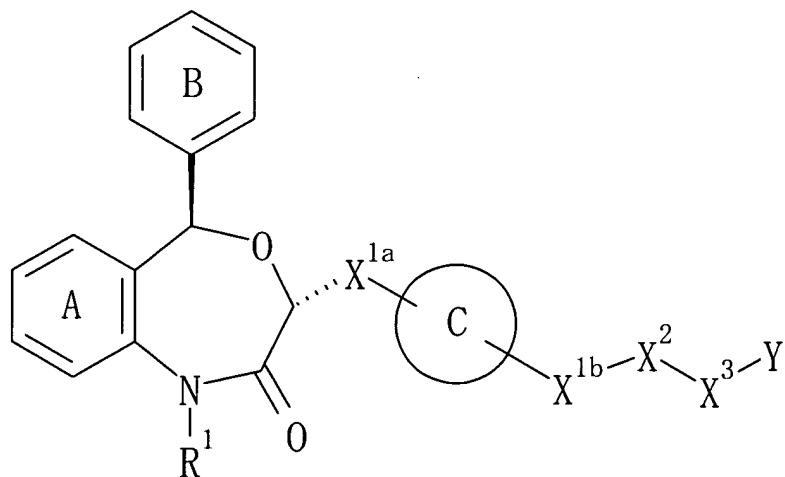
wherein ring A and ring B each represent an optionally substituted benzene ring, ring C represents an optionally further substituted aromatic ring, R¹ represents a lower alkyl group optionally substituted with an optionally substituted hydroxyl group, X^{1a} represents a bond or optionally substituted lower alkylene, X^{1b} represents a bond or optionally substituted lower alkylene, X² represents a bond, -O- or -S-, X³ represents a bond or an optionally substituted divalent hydrocarbon group, and Y represents an optionally esterified or amidated carboxyl group, or a salt thereof.

2. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, wherein X^{1b} is a bond and Y is an optionally esterified carboxyl group.

3. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, wherein ring A is a benzene ring substituted with halogen atom(s).

4. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, wherein ring B is a benzene ring substituted with lower alkoxy group(s).

5. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, wherein ring C is an optionally further substituted monocyclic aromatic heterocyclic ring.
6. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, wherein ring C is an optionally further substituted benzene ring.
7. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, wherein ring C is an optionally further substituted aromatic ring having no hydrogen atom that may be deprotonated.
8. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, wherein X^{1a} is C_{1-3} alkylene.
9. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, wherein X^2 is a bond.
10. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, wherein X^3 is C_{1-4} alkylene.
11. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, wherein the formula [I] is the formula [Ia]:



wherein respective symbols are as defined in claim 1.

12. (Original) 3-(2-{3-[(3R,5S)-7-chloro-5-(2,3-dimethoxyphenyl)-1-(3-hydroxy-2,2-dimethylpropyl)-2-oxo-1,2,3,5-tetrahydro-4,1-benzoxazepin-3-yl]propyl}-1,3-thiazol-5-yl)propionic acid, 3-(2-{2-[(3R,5S)-7-chloro-5-(2,3-dimethoxyphenyl)-1-(2,2-dimethylpropyl)-

2-oxo-1,2,3,5-tetrahydro-4,1-benzoxazepin-3-yl]ethyl}-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)propionic acid, or a salt thereof.

13. (Currently amended) 3-(2-{[(3R,5S)-7-chloro-5-(2,3-dimethoxyphenyl)-1-(3-hydroxy-2,2-dimethylpropyl)-2-oxo-1,2,3,5-tetrahydro-4,1-benzoxazepin-3-yl]methyl}-1,3-oxazol-5-yl)propionic acid, 2-(2-{[(3R,5S)-7-chloro-5-(2,3-dimethoxyphenyl)-1-isobutyl-2-oxo-1,2,3,5-tetrahydro-4,1-benzoxazepin-3-yl]methyl}-1,3-oxazol-5-yl)acetic acid, or a salt thereof.

14. (Original) 5-(3-{[(3R,5S)-7-chloro-5-(2,3-dimethoxyphenyl)-1-(2,2-dimethylpropyl)-2-oxo-1,2,3,5-tetrahydro-4,1-benzoxazepin-3-yl]methyl}-1,2,4-oxadiazol-5-yl)pentanoic acid, 5-(3-{[(3R,5S)-7-chloro-5-(2,3-dimethoxyphenyl)-1-(3-hydroxy-2,2-dimethylpropyl)-2-oxo-1,2,3,5-tetrahydro-4,1-benzoxazepin-3-yl]methyl}-1,2,4-oxadiazol-5-yl)pentanoic acid, 5-(3-{[(3R,5S)-1-(3-acetoxy-2,2-dimethylpropyl)-7-chloro-5-(2,3-dimethoxyphenyl)-2-oxo-1,2,3,5-tetrahydro-4,1-benzoxazepin-3-yl]methyl}-1,2,4-oxadiazol-5-yl)pentanoic acid, or a salt thereof.

15. (Original) A prodrug of the compound according to claim 1.

16. (Original) A medicine comprising the compound according to claim 1 or a prodrug thereof.

17. (Original) A medicine comprising a combination of the compound according to claim 1 or a prodrug thereof and a cholesterol lowering agent.

18. (Original) The medicine according to claim 16 or 17, which is a squalene synthase inhibitor.

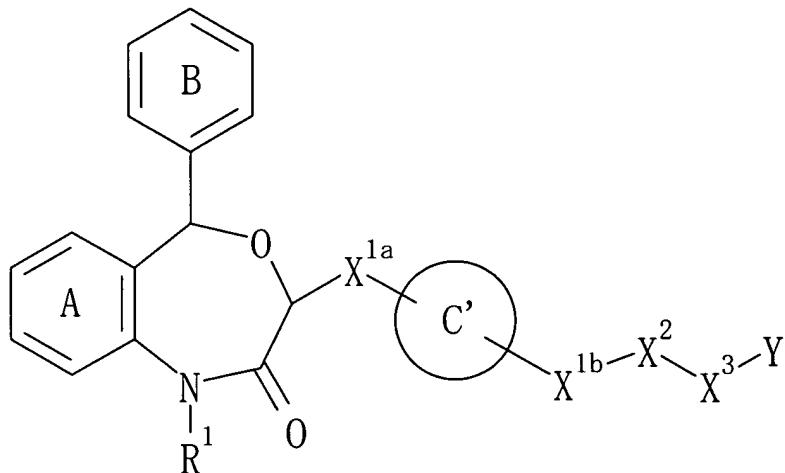
19. (Original) The medicine according to claim 16 or 17, which is a triglyceride lowering agent.

20. (Original) The medicine according to claim 16 or 17, which is a lipid lowering agent.

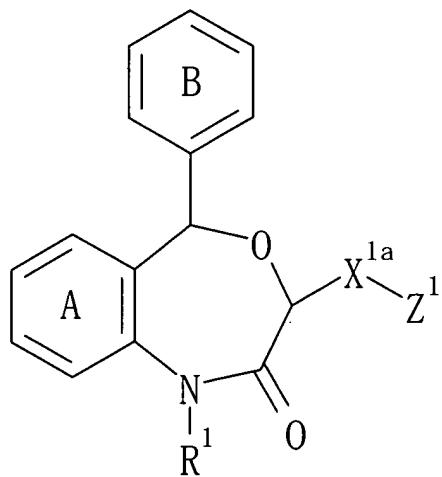
21. (Original) The medicine according to claim 16 or 17, which is an agent for preventing or treating hyperlipemia.

22. (Original) The medicine according to claim 16 or 17, which is a high density lipoprotein-cholesterol level elevating agent.

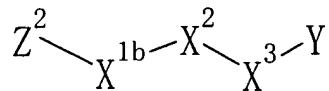
23. (Original) A process for preparing a compound represented by the formula [I']:



wherein ring C' represents an optionally further substituted aromatic heterocyclic ring and other symbols are as defined in claim 1, or a salt thereof, which comprises reacting a compound represented by the formula:



wherein Z^1 represents a functional group involved in an aromatic heterocyclic ring forming reaction and other symbols are as defined in claim 1, or a salt thereof, with a compound represented by the formula:



wherein Z^2 represents a functional group involved in an aromatic heterocyclic ring forming reaction and other symbols are as defined in claim 1, or a salt thereof.

24. (Original) A method of inhibiting squalene synthase in a mammal, which comprises administering an effective amount of the compound according to claim 1 or a prodrug thereof to said mammal.

25. (Original) A method of lowering triglyceride level in a mammal, which comprises administering an effective amount of the compound according to claim 1 or a prodrug thereof to said mammal.

26. (Original) A method of lowering lipid level in a mammal, which comprises administering an effective amount of the compound according to claim 1 or a prodrug thereof to said mammal.

27. (Original) A method of preventing or treating hyperlipemia in a mammal, which comprises administering an effective amount of the compound according to claim 1 or a prodrug thereof to said mammal.

28. (Original) A method of elevating high density lipoprotein-cholesterol level in a mammal, which comprises administering an effective amount of the compound according to claim 1 or a prodrug thereof to said mammal.

29. (Original) Use of the compound according to claim 1 or a prodrug for manufacture of a squalene synthase inhibitor.

30. (Original) Use of the compound according to claim 1 or a prodrug thereof for manufacture of a triglyceride lowering agent.

31. (Original) Use of the compound according to claim 1 or a prodrug thereof for manufacture of a lipid lowering agent.

32. (Original) Use of the compound according to claim 1 or a prodrug thereof for manufacture of an agent for preventing or treating hyperlipemia.

33. (Original) Use of the compound according to claim 1 or a prodrug thereof for manufacture of a high density lipoprotein-cholesterol level elevating agent.